

(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES. Provides relative to performance agreements between the Board of Regents and certain public historically black colleges and universities.

DIGEST

Present law (the GRAD Act) authorizes specific tuition and fee increases and operational autonomies at public postsecondary education institutions contingent on those institutions meeting performance goals established by agreement with the Board of Regents. Requires that such performance goals include elimination of remedial courses and developmental programs and requires that admission standards be increased in order to increase retention and graduation rates. Proposed law exempts Grambling, Southern, and Southern at New Orleans from the requirement that their performance agreements require elimination of remedial courses and developmental programs. Provides that those institutions shall not be required to raise admission standards such that students requiring a single remedial course would be excluded from admission.

Present law provides for the elimination of remedial course offerings and developmental study programs unless such course or program cannot be offered at a community college in the same geographic area. Proposed law provides that Grambling, Southern, and Southern at New Orleans shall be deemed to have met this target if no student takes more than one remedial course. Requires the Board of Regents postsecondary education funding formula to fund all remedial courses offered at these institutions at the rate established for such courses offered by community colleges.

Proposed law is applicable to performance agreements entered into after the effective date of proposed law but shall not apply to agreements entered into for the 2018-2019 academic year and thereafter.

Proposed law requires the Bd. of Regents annually to report the effect of the proposed law exemptions.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3139.2(2)(a) and (4)(a) and 3139.6(1))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Add that proposed law shall not apply to agreements entered into for the 2018-2019 academic year and thereafter.
2. Require the Bd. of Regents annually to report the effect of the proposed law exemptions.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the engrossed bill

1. Provides for a limited exception from the GRAD Act provisions requiring elimination of remedial courses for Grambling, Southern, and Southern at New Orleans.